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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Yasuteru TAKAHAMA et al
Serial No. : 09/955,857
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Art Unit : 2872
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the three publications identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publications submitted herewith and return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the publications listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

Japanese KOKAI Publication No. 63-138314 and Japanese KOKOKU Publication No. 57-37848 are identified in the present specification at page 2, lines 6-9, and are discussed in the present specification beginning at page 2, line 6. It is respectfully submitted that the discussion in the present specification constitutes a concise explanation of relevance of each of the documents.

A commercially available English language Abstract for Japanese KOKAI Publication No. 63-138314 is submitted herewith.

Japanese KOKOKU Publication No. 57-47848 corresponds to German Patent No. 2640974, a copy of which is also submitted herewith. The explanation of Japanese KOKOKU Publication No. 57-37848 in the present specification also constitutes a concise explanation of relevance of German Patent No. 2640974.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date noted below.

Attorney: Leonard Holtz

Dated: December 5, 2001

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.




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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publications submitted herewith and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: December 5, 2001

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman, Langer & Chick, P.C.
767 THIRD AVENUE - 25TH FLOOR
New York, New York 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
FAX No. (212) 319-5101
LH/sdf:sp